

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**ATTITUDES AND MOTIVATION TOWARDS
LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND
LANGUAGE OF REMBAU MARA HIGHER
TECHNICAL COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATES**

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M.Ed (TESL)


AUGUST 2015

DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writing of a dissertation is never an easy task. Albeit the few hiccups I encountered, I managed to finish this dissertation within the stipulated time due to immense help from kind-hearted people around me.

Hence, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Academic Project's supervisor, Dr. Leele Susana Binti Jamian for the guidance, support, and patience that aided me during the entire project. No words could ever portray how thankful I am to have you as my savior.

Not to forget, my deepest gratitude goes to undergraduates and lecturers from Kolej Kemahiran Tinggi MARA, Rembau, for their assistance throughout this study.

To friends and families, my sincerest gratitude sealed with hugs and kisses goes to each and every one of you especially to the matriarch of my heart, Puan Hamidah for the outpouring love and prayers of a loving mother. Also, special appreciation to my sisters, Zakiah and Sabarina for the provision of supports and understanding I received along the way into the completion of this dissertation.

But more than anything, I take this ultimate liberty to thank Allah S.W.T for the given inspirations and ideas upon the completion of this dissertation.

Verily, with every hardship, there is ease.

(Quran 94:6)

Alhamdulillah.

ABSTRACT

Attitudes and motivations have always been investigated among numerous researchers in the area of learning English as a second language learning. This is mainly because they are believed to influence the process of acquiring the second language learning. Hence, this study was carried out with the aims to investigate the attitudes and motivations, and their relationship towards learning English as a second language of Rembau MARA Higher Technical College undergraduates. Generally, a mixed-methods research design consisting of both quantitative and qualitative approaches was employed in order to explore the variables. Stratified random sampling procedure was used to select a total of 130 undergraduates at Rembau Higher Technical College as respondents of the study. The quantitative data was collected using an integrated Attitude and Motivation Test Battery (AMTB) instrumentation developed by Gardner (2004). A set of questionnaire with a six-point Likert scale was used to measure 56 items on attitudes and motivations variables. In addition, qualitative data was collected using six open-ended questions posted to the respondents via the same questionnaire. Findings revealed that firstly, the Rembau MARA Higher Technical College undergraduates had positive attitudes ($M = 4.76$) and high motivations ($M = 4.50$) towards learning English as a second language. Secondly, the one-way ANOVA statistical test showed that there was a significant difference of attitudes among undergraduates according to their academic performances at the $p < .05$ level [$F(3, 126) = 6.28, p = .001$]. Thirdly, there was a significant difference of motivations among undergraduates according to their academic performances at the $p < .05$ level [$F(3, 126) = 4.15, p = .008$]. Fourthly, there was a significant difference of attitudes between the male ($M = 4.61$) and female ($M = 4.97$) undergraduates. Fifthly, there was a significant difference of motivations between the male ($M = 4.34$) and female ($M = 4.72$) undergraduates. Sixthly, the Pearson product moment correlation coefficient analysis revealed a moderate and positive correlation ($r = .74$) between attitudes and motivations. Lastly, qualitative findings seemed to triangulate and support the quantitative findings. Majority of the undergraduates agreed that positive attitudes and high motivations tend to influence them to be more enthusiastic and committed in learning English as a second language. Justifications for being positive and negative attitudes and motivations were also recorded from the respondents. In short, all these lead to important implications and recommendations for the future study.

ABSTRAK

Sikap dan motivasi adalah perkara yang selalu dikaji oleh penyelidik dalam pembelajaran Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua. Ini adalah disebabkan kedua-dua pemboleh ubah ini dipercayai telah mempengaruhi proses pembelajaran bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua. Oleh itu, kajian ini telah dijalankan dengan matlamat untuk menyiasat sikap dan motivasi, serta hubungan antara keduanya terhadap pembelajaran Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua di kalangan mahasiswa Kolej Kemahiran Tinggi MARA, Rembau. Secara amnya, rekabentuk kajian 'mixed-methods' yang terdiri daripada pendekatan kuantitatif dan kualitatif digunakan untuk meneroka kedua pemboleh ubah ini. Berdasarkan persampelan rawak berstrata, seramai 130 mahasiswa di Kolej Kemahiran Tinggi MARA, Rembau dipilih sebagai responden kajian ini. Data kuantitatif telah diperolehi melalui instrumen "Attitude and Motivation Test Battery" (AMTB) yang telah dibangunkan oleh Gardner (2004). Satu set borang soal selidik dengan skala Likert enam-mata digunakan untuk mengukur keberkesanan 56 item yang terdapat di dalam borang kaji selidik. Di samping itu, data kualitatif turut dikumpul menggunakan enam soalan terbuka. Penemuan kajian yang pertama, mendedahkan mahasiswa di Kolej Kemahiran Tinggi MARA Rembau mempunyai sikap positif ($M = 4.76$) dan motivasi ($M = 4.50$) yang tinggi terhadap pembelajaran Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua. Kedua, ujian statistik ANOVA menunjukkan wujudnya perbezaan sikap di kalangan mahasiswa mengikut prestasi akademik mereka di paras $p < .05$ [$F(3, 126) = 6.28, p = .001$]. Ketiga, wujudnya perbezaan motivasi di kalangan mahasiswa mengikut prestasi akademik disiplin mereka di paras $p < .05$ [$F(3, 126) = 4.15, p = .008$]. Keempat terdapat perbezaan ketara dalam sikap mahasiswa lelaki ($M = 4.61$) dan perempuan ($M = 4.97$) di mana mahasiswa perempuan mempunyai sikap positif yang lebih tinggi daripada mahasiswa lelaki. Kelima, terdapat perbezaan ketara didalam motivasi mahasiswa lelaki ($M = 4.34$) dan perempuan ($M = 4.72$) di mana mahasiswa perempuan mempunyai motivasi yang lebih tinggi daripada mahasiswa lelaki. Keenam, analisis korelasi Pearson menunjukkan hubungan yang positif dan sederhana ($r = .74$) antara sikap dan motivasi. Akhir sekali, data kualitatif didapati agak menyokong data kuantitatif. Kebanyakan mahasiswa bersetuju bahawa sikap positif dan motivasi yang tinggi mempengaruhi mereka untuk menjadi lebih bersemangat dan beriltizam dalam mempelajari Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua. Justifikasi untuk sikap dan motivasi yang positif dan negatif turut direkodkan. Secara ringkas, kesemua keputusan kajian didapati menuju kepada implikasi dan cadangan-cadangan yang penting untuk kajian masa depan.